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WAHLBERG TALKS THE ART OF WAR. PAGE 12

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Closing the Deal. After not making any new music for 20 years, the band that opened the door for the alt rock explosion in the '90s has returned, but to a very different world. **Here comes your man.** Pixies lead singer Black Francis discusses their eventful comeback and all of the changes they went through last year. PAGE 10

**Where
is my
band?**

Pleated pants and white jeans? It must have been the 1990s. Whatever. / GETTY IMAGES

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NEWS



Top 3

What's trending online at Metro.us

1 Dennis Rodman apologizes to Chris Cuomo, sings "Happy Birthday" to Kim Jong Un'

2 VIDEO: Woman devours 72-ounce steak in under three minutes, sets new world record'

3 VIDEO: Insane Clown Posse's Juggalos hold press conference, sue government'

Quoted

"There's a reason why the NFL is trying to fool folks into thinking the #SuperBowl is in New York. #ChrisChristie #bridgegate #tcot #p2" @ericgrant



Pols call for NY inquiry into GWB lane closures

Outrage. New York lawmakers ask for a probe into lane closures on the bridge last fall after recent disclosures.

Three New York lawmakers are calling for the state to conduct its own investigation into George Washington Bridge lane closures last fall.

Disclosures released this week revealed New Jersey officials closed lanes on the bridge in September as a form of political retribution. Gov. Chris Christie apologized for the closures Thursday and fired a top aide involved.

The closures appear to have targeted Fort Lee, N.J., but the lawmakers said a probe is necessary to determine if the New York side of the bridge



The lawmakers said that a probe is needed to see if the New York side of the bridge was affected by the lane closures. / GETTY IMAGES

was affected.

"The New York State legislature's participation is crucial for exposing any remaining issues, and gaining definitive answers on how New Yorkers, including my constituents living in the bridge's vicinity were impacted," said state Sen. Adriano Espaillat, whose district includes the Manhattan entrance to the bridge.

Assemblywoman Gabriela Rosa and Councilman Ydanis Rodriguez, who represent parts of upper Manhattan, also called for oversight.

"When traffic issues arise on the George Washington Bridge, it often creates spillover into the Northern Manhattan community, crippling our streets," Rodriguez said.

ANNA SANDERS
anna.sanders@metro.us

Brooklyn DA to change pot policy



Thompson and Bill de Blasio meet at a campaign stop. / GETTY IMAGES

New Brooklyn District Attorney Ken Thompson is moving forward with a campaign pledge to change marijuana possession policy.

The office will soon treat possession of as much as 15 grams of marijuana as a violation with a fine instead of a misdemeanor.

Before he was elected, Thompson said that

small possession cases clogged the criminal justice system.

Thompson also said last June that the racial disparity in Brooklyn marijuana arrests is a "wake-up call."

A New York Civil Liberties Union report at the time found that blacks in the borough are nine times more likely to be arrested for marijuana

possession than whites.

A spokeswoman said Thursday that the DA will change the borough's policy "as soon as possible."

Gov. Andrew Cuomo planned to move for a statewide decriminalization of possession of small amounts of the drug in 2012 but reversed his position this week. ANNA SANDERS

Midtown

Babysitter questioned in boy's death: NYPD

A 37-year-old babysitter was being questioned Thursday after a toddler with signs of previous abuse died in her care Wednesday, police said.

The boy, 4, was found with bruising and signs of trauma

around 11 a.m. after the woman called 911.

She later told police the boy fell into an empty bathtub when she left him on a ledge alone in the bathroom.

Police said the boy had other injuries, including cigarette burns, sustained over several days.

No charges had been filed early Thursday night. ANNA SANDERS

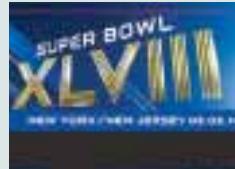
Football

MTA unveils Super Bowl MetroCards

Super Bowl fever is hitting the subway.

The MTA introduced a series of Super Bowl XLVIII MetroCards throughout the subway system this week.

Random distribution of the cards at 400 subway stations across the



A Super Bowl MetroCard / MTA

city began Monday and will end Feb. 3, the day after the game.

A million cards were printed in four different styles designed by the Super Bowl Host Committee.

In the days leading up to the big game, the city will close off 14 blocks for a "Super Bowl Boulevard" with vendors and activities celebrating the sport. ANNA SANDERS

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Gray's Papaya was featured on "Seinfeld" and was a hit among college students. / GETTY IMAGES

Gray's Papaya in Village closes due to rent spike

Last bite. Only one branch of the iconic eateries remains in NYC.

Gray's Papaya in Greenwich Village shut down without warning Wednesday. Passersby saw construction workers dismantling the restaurant: taking down the sign, removing fixtures from the interior and packing up a moving truck, according to Eater NY.

Now only one Gray's Papaya remains, on the

Upper West Side. Owner Nicholas Gray told the Village Voice that he had to shut down the famous hot dog stand after 28 years of business because the landlord increased the rent by 66 percent.

He said, "They wanted to raise my rent to \$50,000 from \$30,000."

Big increase

"They wanted to raise my rent to \$50,000 from \$30,000."

Nicholas Gray

revelers looking for a cheap, quick bite. The Recession Special cost just \$4.45 for two hot dogs and a drink, and the fast food restaurant offered student discounts as well.

The Greenwich Village location on Sixth Avenue was a popular post-drinking spot for late night

ANDREA PARK
andrea.park@metro.us

Underground

Man, 39, sought in subway stabbing

Police are on the hunt for a suspect who they say stabbed a man on a subway train in the Bronx last month.

William Quinones, 39, repeatedly stabbed the 25-year-old victim in the torso on a southbound 2 train at the East 149th Street/Third Avenue station on Dec. 20, police said. **LAURA SHIN**

Ride on. Citi Bikers defy freezing temps

New York Citi Bike riders were undeterred by frigid and freezing temperatures this week.

Citi Bike riders took 9,707 trips Wednesday, according to the bike share program, braving midday temperatures as low as 16 degrees.

And on Tuesday, when temperatures broke a 118-year-old record with a low of 4 degrees, 6,669 trips were taken.

Citi Bike encourages riders to take precautions



Snowy Citi Bikes / GETTY IMAGES

in such conditions, wearing layers and covering their head, ears, hands and toes. **ANNA SANDERS**

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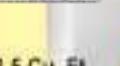


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DiNapoli shines the spotlight on surveillance plan

Hot topic. AT&T plans to release reports on how it shares consumer information with government agencies.

A plan by AT&T to explain how it shares some customer information with government agencies may not be enough to restore public trust, an attorney for New York State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli told securities regulators in a letter released

Wednesday. The attorney's letter, dated Jan. 6, keeps alive a surveillance debate the telecommunications giant had aimed to settle in December.

Under pressure from shareholders, AT&T promised to publish a semi-annual rundown of issues such as how many law-enforcement requests it gets in criminal cases.

But DiNapoli's office is worried the company's report could exclude pertinent details, for instance its sharing of customer calling records or requests for information the U.S. company might receive from foreign governments for calls made by religious



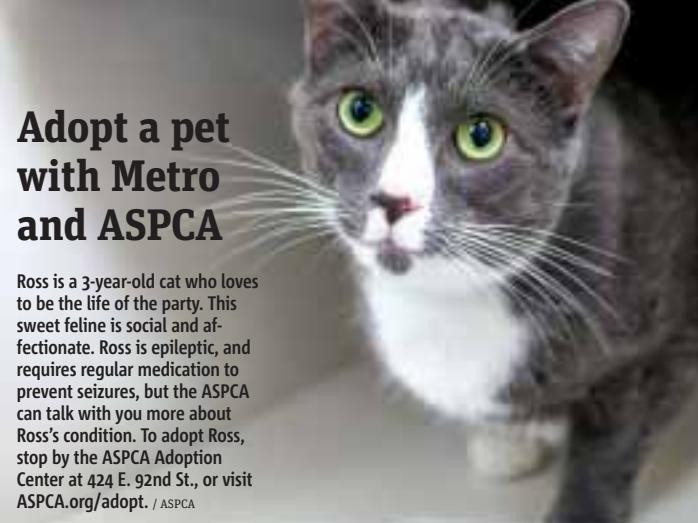
THOMAS DINAPOLI
GETTY IMAGES

dissidents.

AT&T representatives did not respond to questions.

DiNapoli oversees the \$160.7 billion New York State Common Retirement Fund, which owned 15.7 million AT&T shares as of November.

REUTERS



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Justice system

**Convict on trial
for plot to
decapitate
U.S. judge**

A man serving time for fraud and bent on revenge plotted to have the federal judge and prosecutor who sent him to prison decapitated and their heads preserved in formaldehyde as souvenirs, a government

lawyer told jurors in federal court in New York on Thursday.

Joseph Romano was sentenced in 2012 to 15 years in prison after pleading guilty to charges related to running a fraudulent coin-selling operation based in Long Island. Once incarcerated, Romano is accused of having told a confidential informant he wanted to hire a hit man

to kill U.S. District Judge Joseph Bianco and Assistant U.S. Attorney Lara Gatz and, in a "sickening twist," preserve both their heads and Gatz's breasts, prosecutor Una Dean told stone-faced jurors.

Romano is charged with two counts of conspiring to murder a government employee and faces life in prison.

REUTERS

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NJ Gov. Christie apologizes, fires aide Bridget Kelly

A closer look. U.S. Attorney is looking into the George Washington Bridge lane closures.

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie apologized to the residents of his state in a press conference Thursday after emails from one of his top aides were released, revealing she played a role in lane closures on the George Washington Bridge in an act of political retaliation.

Christie remained steadfast in his denial of any prior knowledge that top aide Bridget Kelly asked Port Authority executive David Wildstein in September to close lanes on the George Washington Bridge after the mayor of Fort Lee, N.J., didn't endorse Christie for re-election. The governor said he fired Kelly on Thursday morning because she lied to him when he asked his staff weeks ago whether they had any knowledge of involvement in the lane closures when the accusations began to surface.

"I am embarrassed and humiliated by the conduct of some of the people on my team," Christie said. "I believe all the people who were affected by this conduct deserve this apology and that's why I am giving it to them. I need to apologize to them for my failure as governor of this state to understand the true nature of this problem sooner than I did. I believe I have an understanding now."

The controversy began after the public release of several incriminating



New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie and Deputy Chief of Staff Bridget Kelly walk at the scene of a boardwalk fire on Sept. 12, 2013, in Seaside Heights, N.J. / GETTY IMAGES

Pleads the 5th

Ex-official mum before questions

A former top official at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, who is at the center of a political retribution scandal involving Gov. Christie, declined

to answer questions at a State Assembly hearing on Thursday.

David Wildstein repeatedly invoked the constitutional protection not to say anything that might incriminate him.

REUTERS

Quoted

"I am heartbroken that someone I permitted to be in that circle of trust for the last five years has betrayed my trust."

Gov. Chris Christie

emails, including one that Kelly wrote to Wildstein in August, saying, "Time for some traffic problems in Fort Lee." The email came after Fort Lee's democratic mayor, Mark Sokolich, didn't endorse Christie in his bid for re-election.

Wildstein, a high school friend of Christie, responded, "Got it."

Four days of lane closures in September on the George Washington Bridge, which connects Manhattan to Fort Lee, resulted in massive traffic jams and have been blamed for the slow response times of emergency vehicles and severe delays in buses carrying young students to their first day of school.

 CASSANDRA GARRISON
cassandra.garrison@metro.us

Underwear death

Oklahoma man charged with 'atomic wedgie' murder

A 33-year-old Oklahoma man has been charged with killing his stepfather by giving him an "atomic

wedgie" that caused the victim to suffocate on his own underwear.

Brad Lee Davis was charged with murder in the death of 58-year-old Denver St. Clair in a drunken family fight at a residence just east of Oklahoma City. Police arrested Davis on Tuesday. The affidavit said he "grabbed St. Clair's underwear and gave him an 'atomic wedgie.' Davis allegedly pulled the elastic waistband of St. Clair's underwear over his head and around his neck." REUTERS

Opinion

TOM FOREMAN

FOREMAN IS A POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT FOR CNN.



Nuclear program

Senate majority supports Iran sanctions bill, Obama opposes

More than half of U.S. senators support a bill to impose new sanctions on Iran should the Islamic Republic break an agreement to curb its nuclear program, aides said on Thursday, but there was no plan yet to debate the measure.

The White House has threatened to veto the legislation, and Iran says last November's nuclear deal struck in Geneva would be dead if Congress imposes new sanctions.

It is uncertain whether the bill will be introduced on the Senate floor and whether backers can win the two-thirds majority to overcome a veto by President Barack Obama.

A senior Senate Democratic aide said there were no plans yet for advancing the bill to the Senate floor, despite the growing list of co-sponsors.

The bill would also place sanctions on Iran if it does not agree to a comprehensive deal later this year or next. The United States and five other world powers agreed to a six-month interim deal with Iran in Geneva in November that can be extended to a year.

Under last year's interim agreement, Iran will get access to billions of dollars' worth of funds that had been cut off by sanctions in return for limiting enrichment of uranium. **REUTERS**

ME AND HER

I have one of those fancy Bluetooth things in my car that allows me to give my phone orders while I drive. Most of the time it works pretty well. But every few weeks I have a conversation that goes kind of like this. "Dial home," I say.

"Pardon?" the pleasant woman in the dash replies. "Dialing '0.' Is this correct?"

"No. Dial home."

"Dialing 000."

"No! Stop!"

"Nose pop? Dialing..."

"What the hell is nose pop, you dope?"

"Snow groove? Dialing..."

And it goes downhill from there. So while I absolutely love this new movie, "Her," about Joaquin Phoenix falling in love with a computerized voice, I put it more in the category of pure fiction rather than science fiction.

For starters, his character lives in a world that seems to have zero problems with software glitches, weak batteries or dropped signals. Never once does he bellow, "Wait! I can't hear you... I'm in an elevator!" When he is wooing his cyber love, he never has to enter the name of his favorite pet as a password.

And on top of all that, the computerized voice with which he is smitten belongs to none other than Scarlett Johansson.

Quoted

For starters, his character lives in a world that seems to have zero problems of software glitches, weak batteries, or dropped signals.

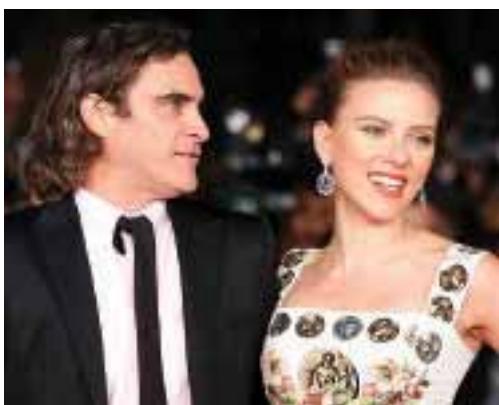
Seriously, if a voice is going to be disembodied, it should not be that one. Just saying.

There are other small issues. In this not-so-distant future, for example, it seems like no one's pants quite fit, and LA looks about as exciting as an old folks' home.

For all of that, I really did adore this movie and completely buy the idea that we are developing "relationships" with our electronic devices. We even talk about them (and to them) as if they are junior high school crushes. "I'm in love with my new phone!" "Have you seen the Xbox One? It's beautiful." "Oh come on, baby, please don't crash!"

But love in the time of terabytes? I don't think we're quite ready for that yet. Mind you, I asked Siri how to spell terabytes. And she made the answer sound so sexy and snarky that it could have been my wife.

CNN = POLITICS



Joaquin Phoenix and Scarlett Johansson star in "Her." / GETTY IMAGES

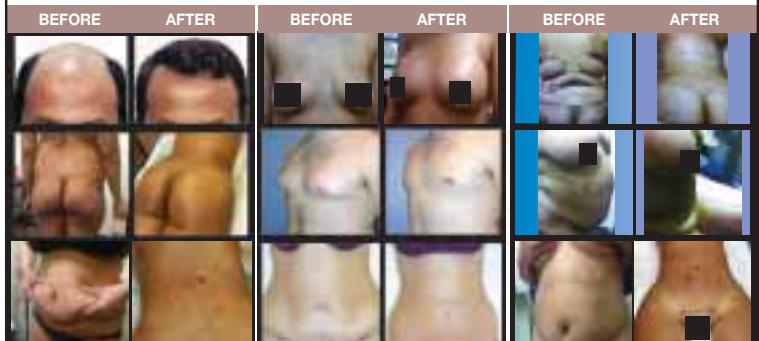
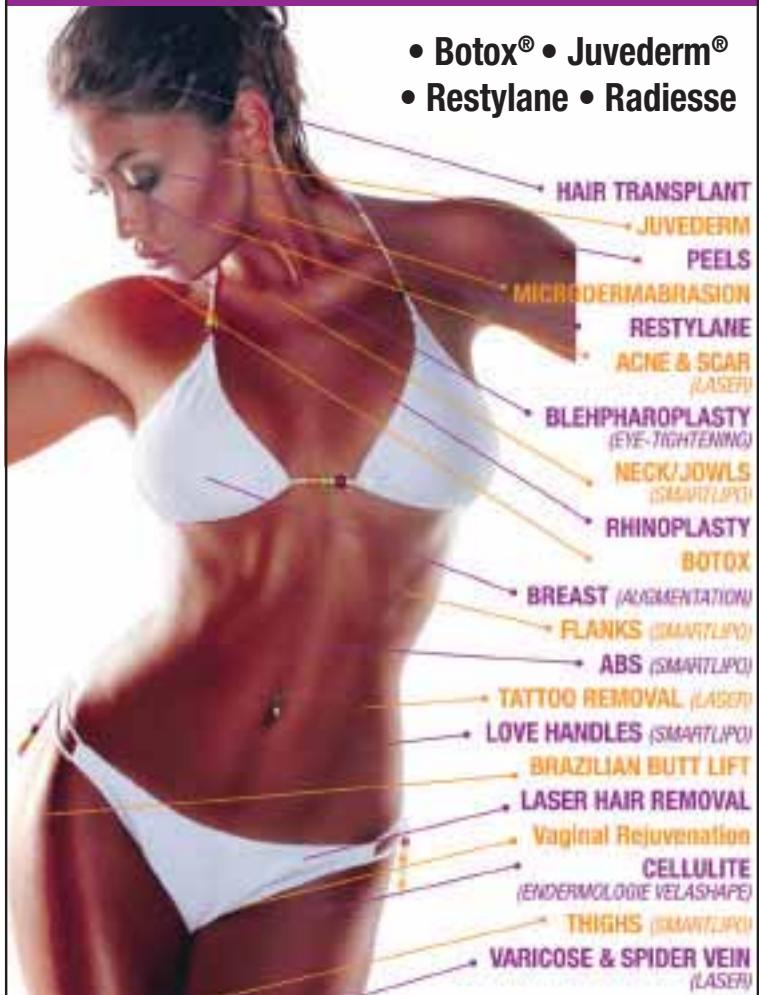
Senators**56**

The Nuclear Weapon Free Iran Act is now supported by at least 54 senators in the 100-member chamber, according to a congressional record, with six senators joining on Wednesday. A Senate aide said two more joined on Thursday, bringing the total to 56.

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CULTURE

Quoted

"That was the relationship with Kim Deal. She only wanted to commit to a couple of slices of bread, and we wanted to commit to a whole loaf."

Black Francis on the split with Kim Deal. Visit www.metro.us to read the full interview.

The Pixies play Prudential Hall in Newark, N.J., on Jan. 21.

MICHAEL HALSBAND



See more at
www.metro.us

www.metro.us
Weekend, January 10-12, 2014

MUSIC 10

After not releasing any new music for more than 20 years, the Pixies dropped "EP1" in 2013 with very little fanfare. Last Friday at 3 a.m., the band did it again with "EP2," four rocking new songs from the same sessions that yielded "EP1," produced by Gil Norton.

Singer Black Francis says releasing music like this is the most logical way to do it in the ever-changing digital era, a time that has found the Pixies facing a lot of internal adjustments as

the other members.

"She only wanted to commit to a couple of slices of bread, and we wanted to commit to a whole loaf," he says. "We had all of this time booked (in the studio) and we had all of these songs written and demo-ed up and she was like, 'I only wanna do these songs.' And we were like, 'long sigh.' We've all got lives. We're all f-ing middle aged, and we don't really want to just dick around on three songs and have that be our big thing

a feather, and that the original intention was to put out a full album.

"Yeah. I mean, it's a season's worth of music," says the singer. "You go into the studio for a couple of months and you make a so-called 'record,' whatever that is. You make a pile of songs, 15 songs, 20 songs."

Throughout the conversation, Black Francis brings up topics before we even have a chance to ask. In discussing the popular legend that the Pixies initially broke up via fax,

THE PIXIES

Black Francis discusses the Pixies' brand new 'EP2.'

'BOOM! IT'S HERE!'

well. He says the events of last year have functioned to "change our whole paradigm, basically."

Founding bassist Kim Deal quit the band earlier in 2013, and the remaining members sacked replacement Kim Shattuck this fall. The Pixies singer says he was shocked with how newsworthy the splits with both Kims were.

In conversation, the man who came to prominence for cryptic lyrics that went from whispers to shouts within seconds of each other, can go from jovial to frustrated in just as little time. What sometimes reads as harsh is often tempered by a laugh, yet he seems quite steadfast in his opinions.

He says the split with Deal arose because after the band reunited for tours in 2003, she wasn't interested in making as much of a commitment as

for the next six months. We're like, 'Look, we're here with the producer and we're in the same studio where they recorded "Bohemian Rhapsody" for Chrissakes! Let's f-ing make some music! I've got a hall pass from my wife for a f-ing seven weeks!'"

The singer says the idea to release new tunes without any hype felt like the right thing to do in this new frontier of the music industry, a landscape which has changed drastically since the last time the Pixies released anything new, which was 1991's "Trompe Le Monde."

"Now there's less activity around physical product," he says. "It just works better if we're like, 'Boom! It's here!'"

Though the band has only released these two EPs, it seems clear that the releases are birds of

he turns to the matter of Kim Shattuck.

"I think in good time we would have said whatever it was that people thought we were supposed to say to address this 'issue,' this f-ing so-called issue of the current bass player leaving," he says, "but she instead decided to — for whatever reason, and you can deduce your own theory about it — she went on her Facebook page and said, 'I'm very disappointed I'm not going to be working with the Pixies.' End of story, right? So now everybody on the Internet is the expert on everything and it's the problem with being in a rock band: Your fans are very precious about everything."

 PAT HEALY
pat.healy@metro.us

Q&A

Pitchfork stabbing

Let's talk about the big deal that was made out of the Pitchfork review of "EP1," which the website gave a score of 1.0.

I never read the review, but I'd heard about it because somebody said,

"Oh, you got 1 out of 10!" Maybe they should go to a 100-star system and then they could have given us 1 out of 100! I don't know. What am I supposed to say? They gave me a bad review. I don't care. If I'm going to read a bad review, chances are, the reviewer's going to say something that's going to

hurt my feelings. Usually it's something personal, like, "Hey, that Black Francis guy is overweight!" or something along those lines that will hurt my feelings. But if they want to write a bad review, what can I do about that? Thanks for giving me the publicity. I don't have a big problem with it.

GIRL FIGHT

Zoe Bell plays a kidnapped woman who has to fight for her life in "Raze." / IFC MIDNIGHT

Interview.

Stuntwoman-turned-actress Zoe Bell beats up other women in a smart but monotonous film.

For an exploitation movie about girls beating each other to death, "Raze" doesn't want you to have a lot of fun. Stuntwoman-turned-actress Zoe Bell plays Sabrina, one of the 50 women kidnapped and placed in a literally underground fighting circuit. But there's no one to root for. If we're human, we're left merely wishing for the doomed one to perish quickly and as painlessly as possible in such minimalist circumstances. Escape

doesn't appear to be an option, given that they seem stuck in a moneyed and impregnable fortress.

"Raze" is, as they say, on the side of the angels. It's a critique of fanboy action, giving us bloody one-ones where we can't take sides. And it's proudly feminist, asking why we take so much delight in what are in effect catfights by removing all that's allegedly pleasurable about them.

It's still monotonous. It starts out unpleasant, then has few places to go — that is, except for that ending, which is little more than fanboy service. You know the film has to go the direction that it does, but you wish it thought of a better out.

It's too bad, not only because "Raze" is still a smart film, but because Bell is more than a fierce fighter.

MATT PRIGGE
matt.prigge@metro.us

Review

'Raze'

Director: Josh C. Waller

Stars: Zoe Bell,
Rachel Nicols

Rating: R

• • • •

TV watch list

AWARD SHOW

'The 71st Annual Golden Globes'

We are tuning in to this exclusively because our favorite lady buddy comedy duo Amy Poehler and Tina Fey are once again hosting. They can do no wrong. Also, we're tuning in because we'll be live tweeting the whole, boozy shebang (the Globes are much more fun than the Oscars), wine in hand.

8 P.M., NBC

COMEDY

'Girls'

Lena Dunham and pals are back to wank about upper middle class white girl problems — and we love every minute of it. In the season 3 premiere, Hannah tries to get her OCD (a last-minute plot-



We'd watch these ladies host pretty much anything.

ART STREIBER, NBC

line we frankly did not care for) under control while balancing work and living with Adam, and we find out what the hell happened to Jessa.

SEASON PREMIERE, 10 P.M., HBO

COMPETITION

'10 Million Dollar Bigfoot Bounty'

Onetime television Superman/longtime Lifetime original movie star Dean Cain hosts this competition to find Bigfoot/Sasquatch/whatever-your-geo-graphical-region-calls-the-giant-man-ape, for which the prize is a cool \$10 million. Um, come again?

SERIES PREMIERE, FRIDAY,
10 P.M., SPIKE
ALEXANDRA CAVALLO

Rolling Stone

"A POWERHOUSE."

Peter Travers

"A CELEBRATION OF COURAGE AND THE BROTHERHOOD OF WARRIOR."

Joe Morgenstern, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

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Pete Hammond, MOVIELINE

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Bill Simmons, GRANTLAND

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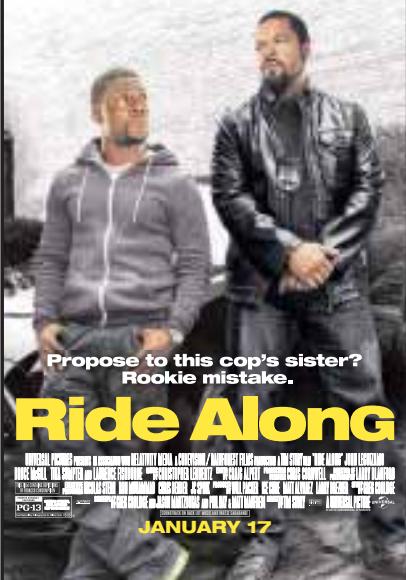
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Written by Michael J. Harhayko
Produced by Jerry Bruckheimer
Cinematography by Alan Muraoka
Edited by Mark S. Miller
Music by Brian Tyler

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IN THEATERS EVERYWHERE JANUARY 17



MARK WAHLBERG

The actor talks about the difficulties
of the SEAL film "Lone Survivor."

'SURVIVOR' MENTALITY

Mark Wahlberg points out that he's 42 years old. But that didn't stop him from playing a soldier in "Lone Survivor" — one who, along with his three fellow SEALs (Taylor Kitsch, Ben Foster and Emile Hirsch), is put through the wringer, gets shot at repeatedly by Taliban insurgents and falls relentlessly down hills. Wahlberg plays Marcus Luttrell, the only survivor of the mission, who wrote about the experience in a book by the same title.

On playing a real person: "For me, I was fortunate to meet the guy I was playing — spending time with him, having him throughout the entire process and helping me with anything I needed. He's a very special individual. To see the kind of man he is — I'm certainly inspired to be a better man."

On working with a

relatively small budget: "Originally this was going to be a big-budget movie. But we did this movie for a small price, which is why it feels so intimate and real and authentic."

On the technical constraints of shooting quickly: "We had a short amount of time [to do it]. We had two units going at the same time. If you were with the second unit, you'd be doing a lot of action stuff, with the falls or certain parts of the gun battle. Then I'd run back to the village set. We were always all over the place."

On getting into the soldier mentality: "As a man, I don't want to sit on the bench. I want to be in the game. I always want the ball. It's not a question of physical ability. It really comes down to a mental toughness that sets those guys apart and gets them

through the training."

On how he approached his role: "When [writer/director Peter Berg] first asked me to do it, I thought selfishly, as an actor, 'Wow, what a great opportunity to play a showy part.' And then when I read it and saw what it entailed, my perspective changed. Then it was never about me again. It was about the guy I was portraying."

On war: "I don't like war, but I love soldiers. And they're not the guys who decide whether or not they're going in. They don't really care. They have a job to do and they do it. They risk their lives — that's what they do. That's why we made this tribute to all of them."



MATT PRIGGE

matt.prigge@metro.us

Based on a true story

Hitting the shelves

"I don't read the books before I make the movies. I've been in situations many times where you've adapted a piece of mate-

rial and you always feel like something's been left out. I thought [Berg] did a great job of writing the screenplay. I was completely immersed in the world and felt it. I didn't want to then go back and

read the book and start complaining about why this wasn't in there or why that isn't there. You could debate that for hours. I read the book after — and I did feel like, 'Why isn't this there?'"

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THE BEST FILM OF THE YEAR

6 CRITICS CHOICE
AWARD NOMINEES

PG-13
1 hr. 45 min.
Directed by Spike Jonze
Written by Spike Jonze
Produced by Amy Pascal
Cinematography by Robert Elswit
Edited by Thelma Schoonmaker
Music by Jeff Beal

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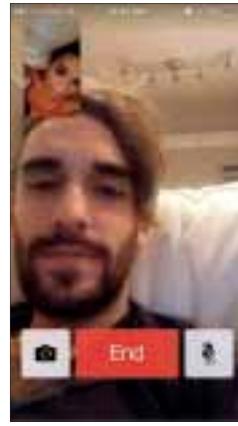
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Is Miley Cyrus lustng after the help?

Miley's assistant, Cheyne Thomas, has seen her in a bra. And she wants the world to know it. She posted the above screenshot of their video chat to her Twitter account last night.

So is Miley dating Cheyne? He certainly has the perfect name for a Miley Cyrus boyfriend. And according to Hollywood Life, Miley was spotted grinding very aggressively on her employee in Vegas on Dec. 27.

We'd better not get our hopes up for an upstairs-downstairs romance, though. After all, seeing Miley in a bra is something Cheyne shares with everyone with an Internet connection. It's



TWITTER

probably in the contract for anyone on Miley's staff: "Duties include filing, running errands, being twerked upon."

MELINDA TAUB

Talking point

Osbourne ends engagement

Looks like Matthew Moss hart won't have Ozzy Osbourne as a father-in-law. Should he feel happy? Sad? Relieved? Not sure what my emotions would be with this one.

The daughter of the Prince of Darkness announced that she's split from Moss hart just months after announcing their engagement.

"Kelly Osbourne and Matthew Moss hart have decided to end their engagement," her rep tells People magazine. "The split is amicable and the pair continue to have nothing but the utmost respect for one another. Kelly is looking forward to a new year full of fresh beginnings. No further comment will be provided."

The pair met in 2011 at Kate Moss' wedding.



THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson takes on the world of gossip.

DOROTHY ROBINSON
@dorothy@metro.com
dorothy.robinson@metro.us

GETTY IMAGES

Drew Barrymore's belly laughs

A pregnant Drew Barrymore shared a hearty belly-laugh backstage with Ellen DeGeneres at Wednesday's "People's Choice Awards." What was it that made Barrymore laugh so hard? "Ellen DeGeneres told me I was fat!" she told the audience when she got onstage.

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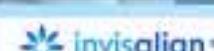


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Horoscope

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. Your strong opinions will place you in a position of leadership. Take what's yours and don't hesitate to be aggressive.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18. Question emotional issues before it is too late. You must stay on top of any situation that could alter your financial future. .

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Do something nice for someone. Your generous deed will help your reputation. A life change will help you pursue more options. Favors will be granted.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. Don't worry about ticklish matters; take the initiative and do whatever has to be done to stake your claim.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. The more you discuss your plans, the closer you will be to achieving them. Setting your course of action is a good place to begin. Honesty will pay off.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20. Secrets must be kept. Money matters will develop, and information will require discretion. Love is prominent, but don't mix business with pleasure.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22. A change will do you good. Visit a destination that offers something unique or could bring you in touch with someone unusual.

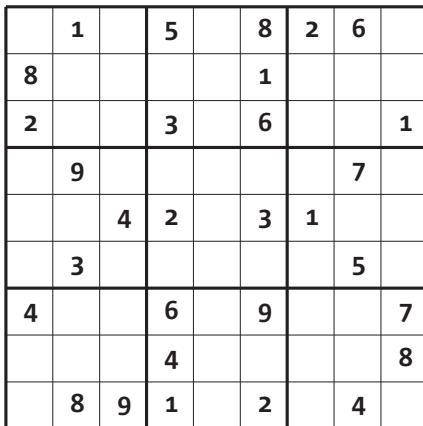
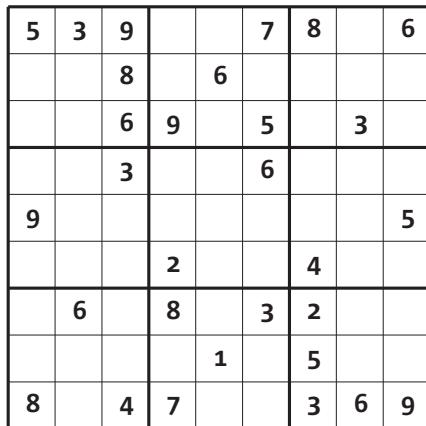
♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. Travel in search of new people, places and interests that will help you broaden your horizons. Don't let an emotional issue get you down.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. Rest will be good for you. Include someone special in your leisure plans, and you will make an impression. Love is highlighted.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. You'll face opposition. Avoid situations that are demanding, overbearing or excessive. Protect your assets and wellbeing.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. Speak up. Don't let anyone push you around. Focus on your beliefs and concerns in order to fix an intolerable situation.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. Don't gamble with money, love or health. Protect what you have, making whatever changes are necessary to ensure your safety. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

Sudoku: Easy and hard

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Crossword**Across**

- 1 Burnt out
- 6 Storage place
- 11 Fellow
- 14 Give an address
- 15 Traveler — Polo
- 16 She loved Lennon
- 17 — wave or pool
- 18 Name for a bear
- 19 Soho co.
- 20 Be an accomplice
- 22 Ms. Foster of films
- 24 Atomizer
- 28 Give advice to
- 30 Flagged down
- 31 Tote
- 32 Possessed
- 33 Rental options
- 36 Mr. — Craven
- 37 Enter all over
- 38 Philosopher— -tzu
- 40 One going through
- Customs
- 43 Tiny shrimp
- 45 Basil and sage
- 46 Lobby furnishing
- 47 Nonsense
- 50 Regards highly
- 51 Well-versed
- 52 Faint trace
- 53 RV haven
- 54 Trojan War story
- 55 Boutonniere's place

62 Go wrong

63 Loose-limbed

64 Each

65 Hibernate

66 Shankar's strings

67 Have a premonition

35 Oregon capital

37 Uncommon

39 Pamplona shouts

41 Cut of lamb

42 Soup legumes

43 Kitchen whistlers

44 Rural addr.

46 Tax-form ID

47 Half- — idea

48 Dig deeply

49 Find out

50 Pillow filler

52 "That's funny" (hyph.)

55 Weeks per annum?

56 Addams' hairy cousin

58 "Hail!"

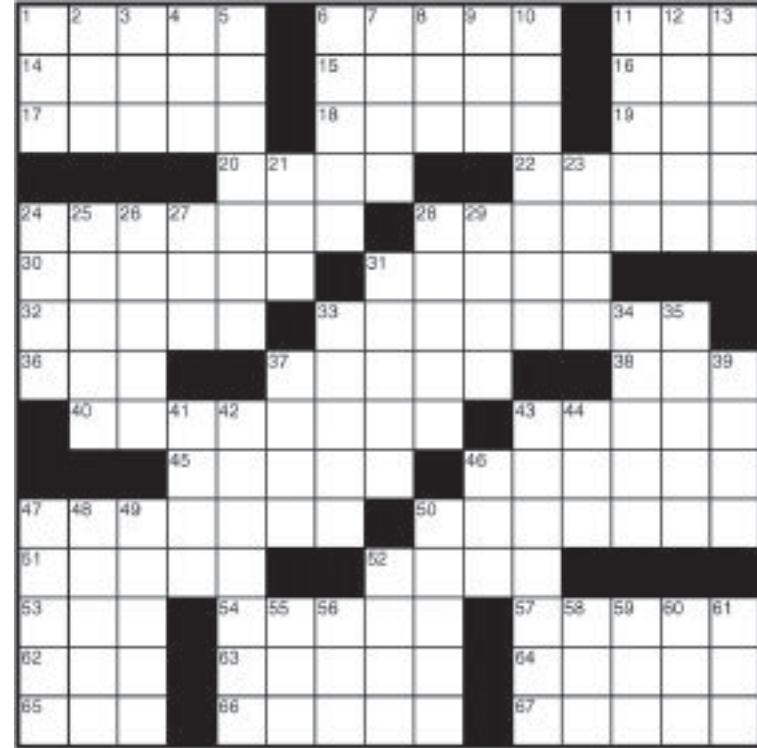
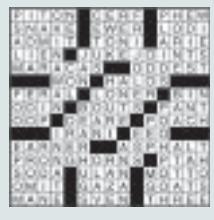
59 Corral

60 Speaker's pauses

61 Drain cleaner

Down

- 1 Scribble
- 2 Meyers of "Kate & Allie"
- 3 Pop
- 4 Zeta follower
- 5 Held up
- 6 Caution light
- 7 Not sweet
- 8 Capote, briefly
- 9 Here, to Henri
- 10 Call forth
- 11 Olympic medals
- 12 Free
- 13 Mountaineer's refrain
- 21 Flower plot
- 23 Deep black
- 24 Put on display
- 25 Manhandled
- 26 Dentist's order
- 27 Malt beverage
- 28 Heist, slangily
- 29 Air France destination
- 31 Salad veggies
- 33 Bat Masterson's hat
- 34 Privileged few

Yesterday's answer**Letters****Bad economics**

Re: 'Who needs enemies when you have the government?' (Metro, Jan. 2)

I totally agree with letter writer Janice Amato's assertion that "it's not al Qaeda that is killing America... [it's] our own (very dishonest) government." It does this by, above all, taking away our freedoms and liberties. What's not readily realized is how the government, especially politicians and bureaucrats, takes away our ECONOMIC freedoms. Three immediate examples:

One: Obamacare will force people to buy government-approved health "insurance" even if they don't want or need it.

Two: The minimum

wage law takes away our freedom to work for whomever we want or hire whomever we want, at whatever wage TWO ADULTS agree to.

Three: The proposed extension for unemployment benefits will force workers to pay for these benefits and take away their freedom to spend their hard-earned money in the way they want.

And that's just three examples. With its innumerable regulations on the economy, confiscatory taxes and uncontrolled spending, the government wages a virtual war on our economic freedoms.

ALTON YEE, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

Online

You can use your smartphone to discover today's crossword answers — right now! Download and open the Blippar app on your smartphone and hold the screen over the puzzle — it's that easy!



3

SPORTS

Watch online



Find video and recap of the Heat's back-to-back with the Knicks and Nets at: Metro.us/sports.

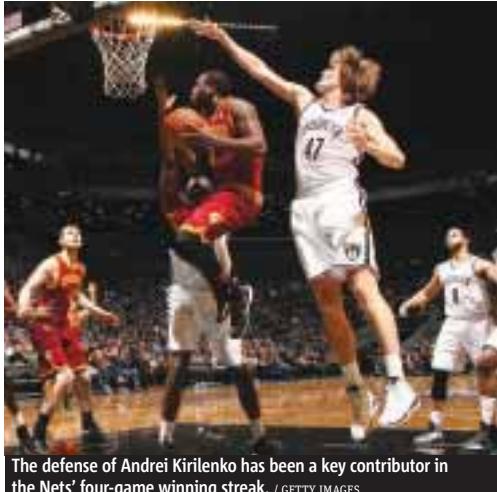
Nets getting hot pre-Heat

NBA. Brooklyn hosts the defending champions in a measuring stick game on Friday.

A lot has changed for the Nets in the 10 weeks since they opened their home schedule with a 101-100 win over the Heat.

The Nets take a four-game winning streak into Friday's nationally televised meeting with the Heat. The run has their record at 14-21 and in eighth place in the Eastern Conference following two months of mostly negative press.

"We want to just continue to finish off this homestand and that's the last team [and] the best team in the NBA in my opinion until somebody knocks them off," Paul Pierce said. "It's another challenge for us. We've just got to stay humble,



The defense of Andrei Kirilenko has been a key contributor in the Nets' four-game winning streak. / GETTY IMAGES

What's in a name?

The Nets and Heat will have nicknames instead of last names on their jerseys when they meet Friday.

- LeBron James: "King James"

Dwyane Wade: "D.Wade"
Chris Bosh: "CB"
Ray Allen: "J. Shuttlesworth"
Mario Chalmers: "Rio"

- Joe Johnson: "JJ"

keep building on what we are doing right now and continue to defend."

"We've just been coming out taking each team at a time," Kevin Garnett added. "[The Heat are] a very good team — probably the best team in the league — and we understand that. We've just got to be prepared, and be ready."

However, following a month in which Brook Lopez broke his foot and head coach Jason Kidd was ridiculed for demoting Lawrence Frank from the coaching staff, perhaps the Nets have turned a corner.

Andrei Kirilenko is making an impact defensively just in time for the

second meeting with reigning MVP LeBron James.

He has appeared in just nine games due to a back injury, but watching him defensively the last two nights it doesn't seem like it's a coincidence the Nets have won six of the games he has played in.

"Hey, I'm not the Messiah here," Kirilenko said. "Don't look at me like that. There's a lot going on. It's the new year, kind of a chance for us to start from scratch."

Kirilenko's minutes have climbed from 10 minutes to the 20-minute range since his return Dec. 31, and he figures to get more time Friday.

"I mean he's a great player," Kirilenko said of James. "He's probably the best player in the league. I always said those guys — like him, Kevin Durant — it's impossible to stop them one-on-one."

LARRY FLEISHER
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Divisional round

The best weekend of the year for football fans is here. We break down the final four-game weekend of the season:

- Saints at Seahawks (-8) Jan. 11, 4:35 p.m., FOX Drew Brees is going to struggle playing at the toughest homefield in football.
Our pick: Seahawks

- Colts at Patriots (-7) Jan. 11, 8:15 p.m., CBS No longer is this a matchup of Tom Brady and Peyton Manning, but Andrew Luck might be the next star QB.

Our pick: Patriots

- 49ers at Panthers (pk) Jan. 12, 1:05 p.m., FOX Ric Flair is staying out of it, but we're excited to see two of the best young QBs in the NFL. But Colin Kaepernick is on a roll.
Our pick: 49ers

- Chargers at Broncos (-9) Jan. 12, 4:40 p.m., CBS The Chargers won at Denver, 27-20, in Week 15, but don't count us in as one of those jumping on Cinderella.
Our pick: Broncos

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NFL. Jets' Richardson talks play on offense, rookie award chances

In all likelihood, Jets defensive lineman Sheldon Richardson will be a front-runner for NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year honors, handed out in a couple weeks.

But asked about the other side of the ball, Richardson sees two favorites for the offensive rookie honors.

"Keenan Allen and Eddie Lacy," Richardson tabbed as his favorites, naming the Chargers receiver and Packers running back. "They've been balling all year. They are impact players for sure. They aren't playing like rookies; they are playing like grown men. Lots of respect to them both."

As far as ranking his favorites for the offensive award, Richardson does know a thing or two about offensive players. Not only does he make a habit of stopping them — Richardson had 77 tackles and 3 1/2 sacks this past season — but he also made a con-

tribution on the offensive side of the ball.

The Jets implemented a package for Richardson out of the backfield, and finally used it late in the season. He had four carries for four yards along with two touchdowns.

When asked at the end of the season if he should be Defensive Rookie of the Year, he smiled.

"Of course you want it. It is out of my hands," he said. "I'm proud of the season I've had, with or without an award."

KRISTIAN DYER



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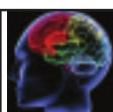
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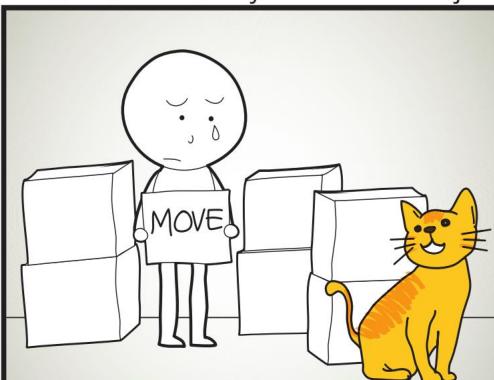
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